



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Case No. 98,009-B1)

*Handwritten signature and date 9/3/02*

In the Application of:      Rodgers et al.      )  
Serial No.:                      09/658,315      )  
Filed:                              September 8, 2000      )  
For:    Method of Promoting Erythropoiesis      )

Examiner: A. Gupta  
Art Unit: 1653

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION OF MARCH 14, 2002**

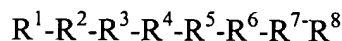
The applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks in response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002.

**AMENDMENTS**

In the claims:

*Please amend the claims as follows: The marked version of amended claims is provided in Appendix A.*

*B1*  
1.(Amended) A method for augmenting erythropoiesis comprising contacting erythroid progenitor cells with an amount effective to augment erythropoiesis of at least one active agent comprising a sequence of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of general formula I



wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc, Ala, Me<sup>2</sup>Gly, Pro, Bet,

Glu(NH<sub>2</sub>), Gly, Asp(NH<sub>2</sub>) and Suc;